

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church

Sunday, November 26, 2023

Christ the King Sunday

Ringling of the Bell

Centering Music: He Is Exalted!

Lloyd Larson

(with Jesus Shall Reign, O Worship the King, All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name)

He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign. Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name.

He is exalted! The King is exalted on high!

Welcome

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

Litany for Christ the King

by Ruth Burgess

Into places of conflict

May your kingdom come

Into the hearts of those who would do harm

May your kingdom come

Into the hearts of those who work for peace

May your kingdom come

Into the hearts of politicians

May your kingdom come

Into the hearts of those bereaved by war

May your kingdom come

Into the hearts of those who are hungry

May your kingdom come

Into the hearts of those made homeless

May your kingdom come

Into the hearts of those who despair

May your kingdom come

Into the hearts of those who are ill

May your kingdom come

Into the hearts of those who have been abused

May your kingdom come

Into the hearts of those who are addicted

May your kingdom come

Into the hearts of those in debt

May your kingdom come

Into the hearts of those who are lonely

May your kingdom come

Into the hearts of those who are fearful

May your kingdom come

Into the hearts of those who are depressed

May your kingdom come

Into the hearts of those we name before you in the silence ...

May your kingdom come

Into the heart of our world

May your kingdom come

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,

we confess that we are not awake for you.

We are not faithful in using your gifts.

We forget the least of our siblings.

We do not see your beautiful image in one another.

We are infected by sin

that divides your beloved community.

Open our hearts to your coming,

open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,

open our hands to serve your creation.

Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children,

and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.

Through ☩ Jesus you are forgiven,

by Jesus you are welcome,

in Jesus you are called to rejoice!

Let us live in the promises prepared for us

from the foundation of the world.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name ELW 634

(Verse 3-high voices, Verse 4-Low voices)

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
 2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,
 3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—
 4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm-wood and the gall,



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
 hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
 the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
 go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
 Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
 The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
 Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe 6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
 on this terrestrial ball we at his feet may fall!
 to him all majesty ascribe We'll join the everlasting song
 and crown him Lord of all. and crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–1792, sts. 1–4; J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, sts. 5–6
 Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1765–1844

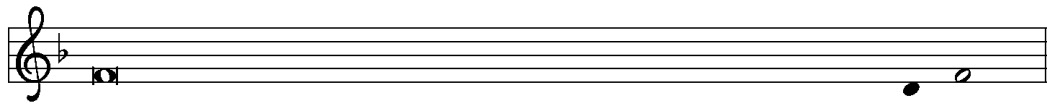
Greeting

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

O God of power and might,

your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The Lord will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

¹¹Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will

feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David.

Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of

the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

Message

Hymn of the Day: You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd

ACS 954

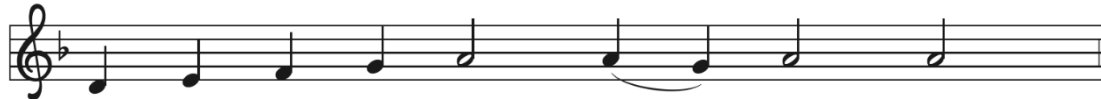
You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd



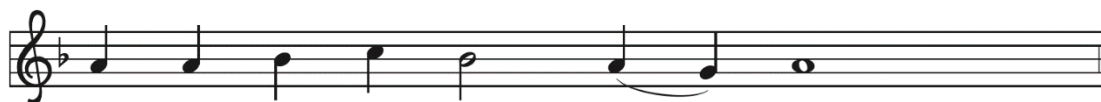
1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.
2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,
3 You, who walk each day be - side us,
4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
stripped of might up - on the cross,
sit in pow - er at God's side.
Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



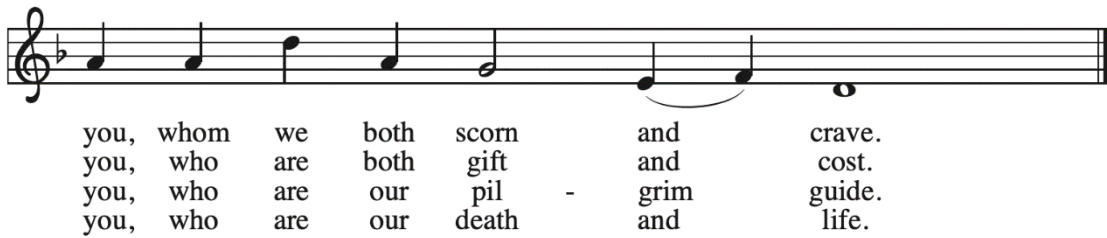
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.
beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,
have a love that reach - es wide.
wor - thy still your peace and strife.



You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

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Confession of Faith

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, from Christ we receive our call to feed, clothe, and welcome. Direct your church to respond to this call with faithfulness and generous love. We pray for the work of ELCA World Hunger and partnerships with global feeding ministries. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In Christ, the rock of our salvation, we are brought into union with all of creation. With mountains, seas, dry lands, and animals of the field, we seek your guidance and protection. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In Christ we know merciful judgment. Guide rulers of every nation in ways of humble leadership and wise decision-making. Allow aid to come to all who are underserved and care to any who are neglected. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In Christ we feel the depth of your love and care toward us. Nourish all who hunger, connect any who are isolated, and surround all who experience rejection or abuse. We pray for those who suffer, especially those we name before you now... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In Christ we are made the people of his pasture. Inspire the outreach and social ministries of this congregation (*especially*). We pray for all people who serve and attend to the needs of others. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Holy God, in Christ we are welcomed home. We praise you for the faithful witness of those who have served you and extended your welcome and love to us. Unite us with them as one body of Christ. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

AGLC gives in the style of our Tanzanian partners. You may place any gift in the basket as you come forward for communion. If you don't have a physical gift to share, you are encouraged to dip your hand in the basket as a reminder that God uses you to do God's work in the world.

Offering Song: Praise and Thanksgiving

ELW 669

(Verses 1 & 4)

Praise and Thanksgiving



- 1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
- 2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
- 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
- 4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh-bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune
Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

Offering Prayer

God of all goodness,
generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.

Holy Communion

Thanksgiving at the Table

We praise you, all-holy God,
Our maker, our lover, our keeper,
For the universe beyond our knowing,
For lands and seas and all their creatures,
For friends and strangers and family,
For homes and grocery stores and schools.

We praise you for your covenant people,
For Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Miriam,
For centuries of faithful Christians,
For Mary Magdalene, Peter and Paul.

We praise you for your Son Jesus Christ,
Who saves us from sin and from evil.

Sung Words of Institution:

Verses 1 & 2: Pastor, Verse 3: All



3. So, we thank You for _ the wine _ and for the bread; _ For we
see the life _ You gave _ and the blood You _ shed. And we re -
mem - ber Your won - drous _ love, You gave Your bod - y, You shed Your _
blood; And we re - mem - ber Your won - drous _
love, You gave Your bod - y, You shed Your _ blood.

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Lord's Prayer

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Invitation

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church practices open communion. Whether you are a member of AGLC or not, you are invited to the table that is set by Christ for you.

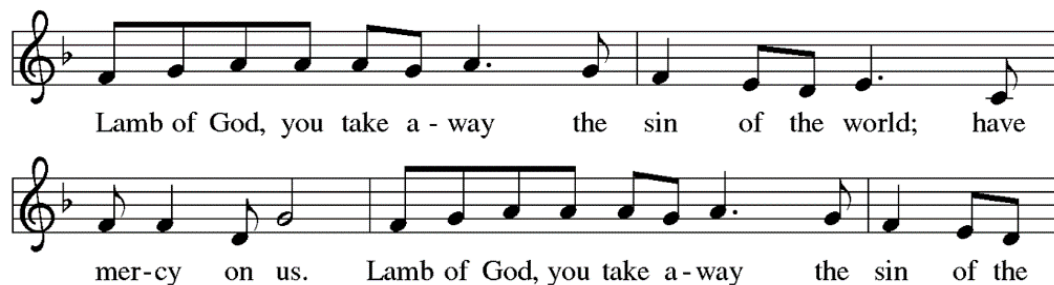
There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table. **Amen.**

Distribution

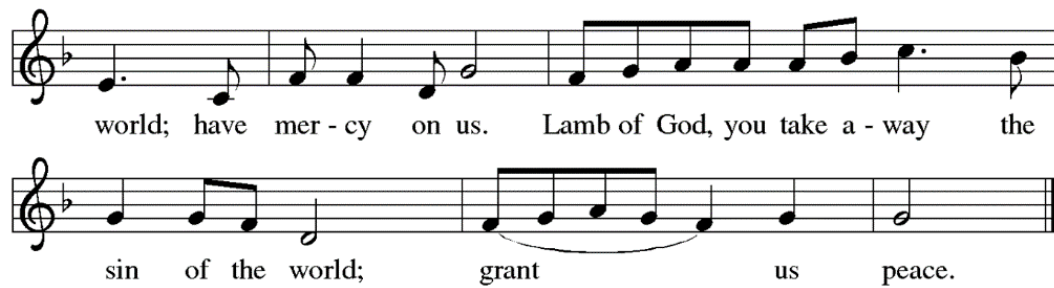
The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The wine used in worship is alcohol-free. Gluten-free bread is available upon request.

Communion Song(s):



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



The King of Love My Shepherd Is *(Verses 1-3)* Jesus Name Above All Names

ELW 502

Jesus Name Above All Names

Words and Music by
Naida Hearn

VERSE

$\text{♩} = 54$ F Dm7 Gm7

1. Je sus, name a - bove all names, beau - ti - ful Sav - ior,
2. Je sus, lov - ing Shep - herd, Vine of the branch - es,
3. Praise him, Lord a - bove all lords, King a - bove all kings,

6 Gm7/C Gm7/B \flat Am7 B \flat F/C C F2 Dm7

glo - ri - ous Lord. Em - man - u - el, God is with us,
Son of God. Prince of Peace, Won - der - ful Coun - se - lor,
God's on - ly Son. The Prince of Peace, who by his Spir - it

12 G7sus Gm7 Gm7/C F/C C F

bles - ed Re - deem - er, Liv - ing Word. _____
Lord of the u - ni - verse, Light of the world. _____
comes to live in us, Mas - ter and Friend. _____

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Awesome God

(repeat multiple times, feel free to continue singing, humming, oohing)

Our God is an awe-some God, he reigns from

Chords: C, G/B, G, D

heav - en a - bove with wis - dom, pow'r, and love— our

Chords: Em, D/E, Em, C, G/B, G

God is an awe-some God! Our God! Our God is an awe-some

Chords: Am, Em/B, Bm⁷, Em (To repeat), Em (Last time), Am, Em/B, Bm⁷

God! Our God is an awe-some God!

Chords: Em, Am⁷, Em/B, Bm⁷, Em

Text: Didache, 2nd cent., refrain; Marty Haugen, stanzas
 Music: David Haas
 Text and music 1999 GIA Publications

Prayer after Communion

Lord Jesus,

in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. Amen.

Announcements

Benediction

May the God of all creation,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved,
who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!
The blessing of God,
Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit,
be with you today and always.
Amen.

Sending Hymn: Rejoice, for Christ Is King! ELW 430

Rejoice, for Christ Is King!



1 Re - joice, for Christ is king! Your Lord and king a - dore;
2 Our Sav - ior Je - sus reigns, the God of truth and love;
3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
4 He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub - mit



re - joice, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more:
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove:
the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n:
and bow to his com - mand and fall be - neath his feet:

Refrain



Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; re -



joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: LAUS REGIS, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

Dismissal

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Rejoice, for Christ is King!

Lloyd Larson